

Message Text

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11

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 170715Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6757

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 1983

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, EAID, SA, JO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF JORDANIAN KING TO RIYADH: REQUEST
FOR ASSISTANCE

REF: A) AMMAN 2064; B) AMMAN 2065

1. SAYYID OMAR SAQQAF, SAUDI MINISTER OF STATE FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TOLD THE AMBASSADOR APRIL 15 THAT
KING HUSSEIN CAME TO RIYADH ON APRIL 11 ESSENTIALLY
TO GET MORE MONEY.

2. HE HAD THREE SPECIFIC REQUESTS: A) \$30 MILLION
FOR U.S. ARMS PURCHASES; B) ADDITIONAL BUDGETARY
SUPPORT (SAQQAF DID NOT MENTION A FIGURE); AND C) \$75
MILLION FOR AN AIRPORT IN SOUTHERN JORDAN. THE SAUDIS
AGREED TO FINANCE HALF THE AIRPORT AS SOON AS CONSTRUCTION
BEGINS BUT NOT BEFORE. SAQQAF SAID THEY WOULD STUDY THE
OTHER TWO REQUESTS, BUT HE GAVE NO HOPE THAT THE RESPONSE
WOULD BE POSITIVE.

3. HUSSEIN ALSO DISCUSSED HIS IDEAS ABOUT A PALESTINIAN
ENTITY AND PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT THE GENEVA
CONFERENCE. BUT HE ADDED NOTHING THE SAUDIS HAD NOT
ALREADY READ IN THE FOREIGN PRESS.

4. COMMENT: OMAR SAQQAF IS NOT AN ADMIRER OF KING
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HUSSEIN OR HIS GOVERNMENT, AND HE WILL NOT TRY TO

INFLUENCE THE KING TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING. THE ARDOR OF
SOME OF THE PRINCES' FOR JORDAN ALSO SEEMS TO BE COOLING.
PRINCE SULTAN, MINISTER OF DEFENSE, RECENTLY TOLD THE
AMBASSADOR THAT SAUDI ARABIA WISHED TO HELP CERTAIN OTHER
ARAB COUNTIES. JORDAN WAS CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT FROM HIS
LISTING.
AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Draft Date: 17 APR 1974
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Disposition Event:
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